

the brethren to confine their dealings to "the godliest of that trade" (of cloth making); recommended the establishment in the township of a scheme of universal education, that of children of parents too poor to meet the cost being defrayed from collections made in church; and urged that each well-to-do householder should provide in his home for two (or, if less able, one) of his impoverished neighbours who "walked christianly and honestly in their callings." ⁴⁰ In the ever-lengthening list of scandalous and notorious sins to be punished by exclusion from the sacrament, which was elaborated by the Westminster Assembly, a place was found, not only for drunkards, swearers and blasphemers, worship-pers and makers of images, senders or carriers of challenges, persons dancing, gaming, attending plays on the Lord's day, or resorting to witches, wizards and fortune-tellers, but for the more vulgar offences of extortion, barratry and bribery, ^{classis} of Bury in Cantabrigia (*quantum mutatus*) took these economic lapses seriously. It decided in 1647, after considerable debate, that "usury is a scandalous sin, deserving suspension upon obstinacy." ⁴¹

It was a moment when good men were agog to cast the money-changers from the temple and to make straight the way of the Lord. "God hath honored you in calling you to a place of power and

trust, and
hee expects that you should bee faithfull to
that trust.
You are postinge to the grave every day;
you dwell
uppoji the borders of eternity ; your breath
is in your
nostrells ; therfore duble and treble your
resolutions to
bee zealous in a good thinge. . . . How
dreadfull will
a dieinge bed bee to a negligent magistrate
1 What is
the reward of a slothful^ servant ? Is it
not to bee
punished with everlastinge obstruction from
the presence
of the Lord ? " ** Such, in that singular age,
was the
language in which the mayor of Salisbury
requested
the justices of Wiltshire to close four public-
houses,
Apparently they closed them.